



# U Serve Utah

Utah Commission on Service & Volunteerism

The **purpose** of the Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism is to enable individuals, communities, and organizations in Utah to benefit from the service, power, skills, and passion of volunteers. Our **mission** is to strengthen Utah communities through the power of service and volunteerism. Our **vision** is vibrant, productive Utah communities with involved, responsible citizens.

## Minutes

Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 29, 2013

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

State Library, Room 218

### **Commissioners**

Ron Humphries  
Jeanne Hall  
Jake Murakami  
Allie Schroeder  
Chris Bray  
Erica Dahl

Julie Fisher

Kris Hamlet

Diane Lewis

Mark Thomas

Anne O'Brien

### **Staff**

LaDawn Stoddard  
Jana Larsen  
Katie Barlow  
Ann Dent

### **Welcome/Governance**

**Ron Humphries**

**Motion to approve July Board Meeting minutes motion by Diane Lewis. Seconded by Chris Bray. Approved by all.**

LaDawn Stoddard explained the changes in the AmeriCorps RFP Process. Formula applications will still be received once a year, but outreach will begin in the Spring instead of the Fall and will only be considered if there is available funding. National Competitive applications will remain in the Fall, but will be by invitation only for current AmeriCorps programs who have been in operation for at least one year, ensuring strong programs with a proven program model will be considered. Commissioners will receive an email in the Spring with programs up for consideration and a review committee will be formed.

**Motion to approve change in RFP Process by Chris Bray. Seconded by Jeanne Hall seconded. Motion carried by all.**

A nominating committee of three commissioners will be formed near the end of this year to nominate officers for Chair and Vice Chair for next year. Those interested in serving as officers may not serve on the nominating committee. Because of a change in our legislation, there are no more bylaws for the Commission, so the Commission will need to form a policy committee of five commissioners to work on developing policies for 2014 and forward. A signup sheet was passed around for those interested in participating on either committee.

Review of Strategic Framework document as a foundation for strategic planning process that will take place during meeting. Julie suggested removing "with authority" under competitive values.

**Motion to approve change Strategic Framework document by Julie Fisher. Allie Schroeder seconded. Carried by all.**

LaDawn Stoddard introduced the three subcommittees to be formed including National Service, Community Engagement, and Disaster Service. Three objectives of the Commission were introduced: Build and cultivate capacity in the volunteer service community, Promote and inspire statewide and national service, and Recognize the efforts of outstanding volunteers. Subcommittees will work within this framework to discuss and develop strategies, barriers, and outcomes under each of the three objectives.

**Breakout Session**

Community Engagement: Chris Bray, Allie Schroeder, Jeanne Hall, Erica Dahl, Katie Barlow, Ann Dent  
National Service: Jake Murakami, Anne O'Brien, Mark Thomas, Ron Humphries, Jana Larsen  
Disaster Preparedness: Kris Hamlet, Diane Lewis, Julie Fisher, Tracy Healey

**Sub-Committees****Committee Reports****Community Engagement**

Committee defined how they view community engagement in the context of UCSV. Community engagement is connected, both in volunteerism, community needs, and government. It has a training component with nonprofits. Community Engagement should act as a resource to the community. National Days of Service will continue under the Volunteer Management Training grant. Conferences on Service will no longer be organized by the Commission. Instead, the Commission will collaborate with other organizations in the State, such as Utah Nonprofits Association, who also provide training at conferences. Committee decided to keep Volunteer Management Training because it is a good way for the Commission to connect with the community. For recognition events, the Commission will collaborate with other organizations who already do recognition events, such as Philanthropy Day. The Volunteer Recognition Certificate program will continue. More focused work and strategies with youth engagement (ages 5-25), adult engagement (ages 25-retirement), and encore skills based engagement (retirees) will be developed. If the Commission has a good strategy, there could be a business and government component under the three age groups of engagement.

**Committee Leads**

*Chris Bray*

**National Service**

*Jake Murakami*

All AmeriCorps programs are heavily dependent on federal funding. Discussion was held on finding other sources of funding, but it is not the Commission's role to fundraise for these organizations. Rather, it is to help build relationships for that to happen. The Commission can do more to educate political figures and find funding through state sources. Look into example of Minnesota Reading Corps with state budget efforts. It could be good for Read.Graduate.Succeed to have the same brand meaning as Minnesota. Looked at where we may have gaps in programming (engaging veterans, serving veterans and their families). Provide tools to programs to help them with recruitment of members. Utilizing AmeriCorps programming to engage targeted groups in service (Read.Graduate.Succeed engages volunteers in tutoring/mentoring). Make AmeriCorps an option available to college students as a way to gain experience and pay off loans. Public awareness of AmeriCorps will increase. Many are familiar with our actual programs, but don't realize they are AmeriCorps. Utah doesn't have an AmeriCorps Alumni Chapter, which would create an opportunity to establish a strong network of members and alumni. As part of recognition, develop a way for those most changed/affected by their national service to share their story, which could help with recruitment. Commissioners can engage more in AmeriCorps by: participating in the RFP review process, adopt-a-program, attend a site visit, review progress reports, or report out about a program at an upcoming commission meeting.

**Disaster Preparedness**

*Julie Fisher*

There is a need for communities to understand how to deal with volunteers who show up in the event of an emergency and the Commission is developing training in this area. This will help to break down barriers of silos between volunteer managers and regional emergency managers and also help communities be compliant with FEMA reimbursement requirements after a disaster. Discussion also focused on how the private sector can engage in this area and how to reduce the miscommunication and strengthen partnerships between local, state, and federal agencies. Recognition occurs when incentives are provided at training. Recognize partnerships that are established. Strengthen our relationship with Department of Emergency Management. In Utah's past, the state has been able to clean up disasters before FEMA comes in. In the future, there will come a point where local organizations will need additional support from federal agencies, and those relationships will need to be developed further.

**Upcoming Dates**

Next Commission Board Meeting will be held November 21 from 2-4pm. Subcommittees will finish strategies, outcomes, performance indicators for each focus area. They will also develop action plans for each strategy. Strategies, outcomes, and performance indicators are due in a report to the Federal Agency in November, so LaDawn will be in contact with committee leads in the coming weeks to complete that report.

Dan Pallotta is an advocate for nonprofits to be scored on outcomes rather than overhead. He recently recorded a TED talk on this subject. UNA negotiated with him to speak with about 400 nonprofits in Utah. UCSV has co-sponsored the event and offered tickets to commissioners to attend. Hale Center Theater on November 7 at 10:30 am.

The Commission has purchased a sponsor table for Philanthropy day. Lt. Governor Cox, Ron Humphries, LaDawn Stoddard and possibly Norma Matheson will be seated at our table. UCSV has 4-5 seats available for commissioners to attend and interested commissioners should contact LaDawn Stoddard.

A holiday gathering for commissioners and spouses was suggested. Commissioners are considering attending the Festival of Trees and then a party afterward with staff, commissioners and spouses. LaDawn will send a Doodle poll to determine a time. Staff may change the date and time they are volunteering at the Festival to accommodate schedules of commissioners.

#### **Motions**

Motion to approve July Board Meeting minutes motion by Diane Lewis. Seconded by Chris Bray. Approved by all.

Motion to approve change in RFP Process by Chris Bray. Seconded by Jeanne Hall seconded. Motion carried by all.

Motion to approve change Strategic Framework document by Julie Fisher. Allie Schroeder seconded. Carried by all.

#### **Actions to be completed by Commission**

None

#### **Additional Followup**

Strategies, outcomes, and performance indicators are due in a report to the Federal Agency in November, so LaDawn Stoddard will be in contact with committee leads in the coming weeks to complete that report.

LaDawn Stoddard will send a Doodle poll to determine a time for a holiday gathering for all commissioners.